

I. Status Remarks of the Application

Claims 1-33 and 36-42 are pending. Claims 5, 9, 16-18, 21, 25, and 30 are amended. Claims 34 and 35 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 36-42 are added.

Claim 1-33 have been allowed.

II. Amendments

Claims 5, 9, 16-18, 21, 25, and 30 are amended to correct minor grammatical errors and to improve their readability. These amendments are not responsive to any claim rejections and the amendments do not limit the claims.

New claims 36-42, which are based on original claims 8-14, are directly or indirectly dependent on claim 16.

No new matter has been added.

III. Claim Rejections 35 USC § 102

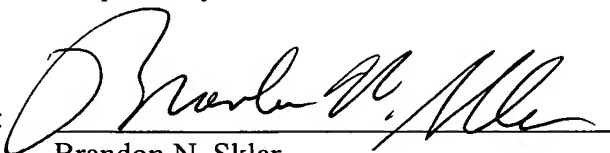
Claims 34 and 35 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,160,891. As noted above, claims 34 and 35 have been cancelled without prejudice.

IV. Conclusion

Allowance of the application in light of these Amendments and Remarks is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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